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**The
United States
in
Prophecy
or
A Forecast of the
Future**

— By —
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The United States in Prophecy, or a Forecast of the Future

PROPHETICAL POETRY

Thy fleets to all nations thy powers shall display,
The nations admire and the oceans obey.
Each shore to thy glory its tribute unfold
And the East and the South yield their spices and gold.
The day spring unbounded thy splendors shall flow,
And Earth's little Kingdoms before thee shall bow,
While the ensign of Union in triumph unfurled—
Hush, Anarchy, sway and give peace to the world.

Mr. Matthew Henry in his introduction on the 38th and 39th Chapters of Ezk. says that these two chapters are concerning Gog and Magog, a powerful enemy to the people of Israel, that should make a formidable descent upon them in the valley of Esdralon, etc., and that this prophecy probably had its accomplishment sometime after the return of the people of Isreal out of their captivity, whether in the struggles they had with the Kings of Assyria, especially Antiochus, Ephiphanes, or perhaps in some other way not recorded, we cannot tell if Sacred History of the Old Testament had reached as far as the prophecy, we should have been better able to understand these chapters, but for want of that key, we are locked out of the meaning of them. We learn from the frank admission of Mr. Henry, that he was in doubt about his interpretation of these two chapters. Now, I am aware of the fact, that for me to undertake the task that balked this great scholar, with his master mind, will subject me to the severest criticism.

Knowing this, I approach the subject with the utmost caution, after having studied it for several years, and submitting my ideas to quite a number of Bible students, receiving their endorsement. One of the greatest difficulties that I have found in interpreting the scriptures is the disposition on our part to modernize the language in which it was written. In translating from the original we are not careful enough to get the real meaning as it applies to the changed conditions in the present dispensation.

Mr. Henry's admission in his commentary that Sacred History did not continue long enough to give us the key to the interpretation of these two chapters is sufficient to convince us that we would have to wait for further development in the events of the World's History, to connect the chain of prophecy with those which had already had their fulfillment in the past, in order to get the key to their interpretation. Recognizing this fact, will give the reader an example of some of the prophecies in this chain and their fulfillment, supported by scriptural references and a definition of prophecy as given by Thomas H. Horn in his book. Confidently believing that I have the key to the inter-

pretation of these two chapters I will give the reader the key words together with the facts. The words will be found in the second Chapter of the Prophecies of Nahum, third verse, which reads, "The shield of his mighty men is made of red; the valiant men are in scarlet; the chariot shall be with flaming torches in the day of his preparation." This last word has its parallel in the seventh verse of the 38th chapter of Ezekial. The uniform of the United States soldier has been changed from navy blue to scarlet. The other word is prepare. These two words enabled me in 1917 to arrive at definite conclusion which I submit in a statement of facts, leaving the reader to draw his own conclusion as to their validity.

Before entering upon an interpretation of the prophecy of the 38th chapter, I offer a definition of prophecy given by Thomas Horn in his book on an introduction to a critical study of the Bible.

"Prophecy is a miracle of knowledge, a declaration or discription or interpretation of something future beyond the power of human sagacity, to discern, or calculate, and it is the highest evidence that can be given of supernatural communion with Deity and of the truth of a revelation from God."

Difference between the pretended predictions of the Heathen Oracles and the prophecies contained in the scriptures.

The oracles of the ancient heathens were delivered with either the purpose of supplying or satisfying some trivial curiosity or to abet the designs of some ambitious leader. They offered spontaneous predictions. Those conducting them threw various obstacles in the way of inquiry, sacrifices etc. Sometimes something deficient in the sacrifices were discovered when too late for their fulfillment.

Widely different are the prophecies contained in the scriptures, for they were delivered without solicitation and were pronounced openly before the people and the prophet knew himself exposed to capital punishment if any of his predictions failed. The events foretold were often complicated and remote, some were accomplished shortly after they were delivered, others somewhat later. But the different events foretold were so connected with each other that the most distant bordered pretty closely upon some others, the accomplishment of which was preparatory to the fulfillment of the last. The fulfillment of the first served to raise an expectation of those which were distant and the accomplishment of the last served to confirm the first.

USE AND INTENT

The use and intent of prophecy was to raise expectation and to soothe the mind with hope, to maintain the faith of a particular providence and the assurance of a promised Redeemer and to attest the Divine inspiration of the Scriptures.

The chain of prophecies are too wonderful for the powers of man to conjecture or to effect. Many of those which are found in the Old Testament foretold unexpected changes in the distribution of earthly power, and whether they announced the fall of flourishing cities or the ruin of mighty empires, the event minutely corresponded with the prediction. These prophecies form a regular chain or system.

1st. The prophecies relating to the Jewish Nation in particular.

2nd. Prophecies relating to the neighboring nations or empires.

3rd. Prophecies directly announcing the Messiah. For example I have recorded a few of the prophecies relating to the Jews.

First, predictions concerning the posterity of Abraham, Gen. 12, 1,

46; Exodus 32, 13; Gen. 22, 2, 4, 22, 17. See the fulfillment of these predictions, as to uniformly omit the increase of Abrahams other posterity, Exod. 1, 7, 9, 12; Ex. 16, 7; Heb. 6, 12. In less than six hundred years after the first of the above predictions were made the number of the Isrealites—amounted to over six hundred thousands.

Prophecies concerning Ishamael compare Gen. 1, 6, 10, 12, 17, 20, 25, 12, 18. From him decended the various tribes of Arabs whose numbers and manner of living have ever since and to this day are a verification of the predictions respecting them.

It was foretold that the posterity of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob should possess the land of Canaan so that, though they should be expelled for their sins, yet their title should endure and they should be resettled in it. Accordingly the Jews enjoyed this land for a thousand years, and when the two tribes were carried into captivity, it was announced that it would be for seventy years, which was literally fulfilled.

The 28th Chapter of Duteronomy contains most striking predictions concerning the Jews which have literally been fulfilled. See 2nd Kings, 6-29. Moses foretold that their enemies would besiege and take their cities, this was fulfilled first by Shishak, King of Egypt; Shalmaneser, King of Syria; Nebucadnezzar, Antiochus, Epiphanes, Sosians, and finally by Titus.

Moses told of greivous famines during these seiges so that they should eat the flesh of their sons and daughters. This was fulfilled six hundred years after the time of Moses among the Isrealites when Samaria was besieged by the King of Assyria; again about nine hundred years after Moses among the Jews during the siege of Jerusalem before the Babylonish captivity and finally fifteen hundred years after his time during the seige of Jerusalem by the Romans under Titus.

Moses predicted that the Jews should be few in number. This was also literally fulfilled by immense numbers perishing by famine during the last seige of Jerusalem, after which many thousands were sold; also by their final overthrow by Hadrian, when more thousands were sold and those for whom purchase could not be found were sent into Egypt. Moses had said no man would buy them. In transporting them to Egypt many perished by shipwreck and famine and others massacred.

Josiah was prophetically announced by name (Kings 13, 2) three hundred and sixty-one years before the event happened. The fulfillment of the prediction was so remarkable as shown that it was not from mere man but from God, (2nd Kings, 23-15.) Besides these I have given, many other predictions were literally fulfilled.

I only give two more: Ezk. 5-12, Hosea, 12-17. Isiah said that the Jews who remained should be punished for their sins. This was fulfilled by the Chaldeans in a few years after. Hosea foretold the present condition of the Jews in these words, "They shall be scattered among the nations" I have been thus specific in giving this chain of prophecy to enable my readers to critically examine my interpretations as I am very zealous of the truth, and I ask for a close examination, holding myself open for any scriptural evidence to the contrary.

CHAPTER II

Ezekial, Chapter 38.

The question is being often asked and we might say with great emphasis, "Was this great war which has involved a greater part of the world, which terminated in the Armistice of Nov. 11, 1918, to be

the last? Will the League of Nations be able through its operations to preclude the possibilities of another war?"

To undertake to answer this question intelligently without the aid of Holy Writ is beyond the power of mere man and lies outside of the horizon of the human mind; therefore, being fully aware of this, I would not presume to attempt a solution unaided by the Book of Inspiration, and even then I approach it with the utmost caution. After several years of patient study and strict investigation, let me say, in the first place, that I lay no claim to superior wisdom or learning—I am just a local Methodist preacher, trained under my father who was also a Methodist preacher.

The subject being one of prophecy, let us refer first to some that have already been fulfilled in the last few years. Take for instance Isaiah, Chapter 60, 8, 'Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their window.' As the word "who" does not refer to fowls, this scripture no doubt refers to our aeroplanes, and let me here remark, by way of calling attention to the fact, that this is an American invention, a product of the American brain, (or was perfected by Americans.)

Second, in the prophecy of Nahum Ch. 2, 3, 4, he describes the auto. He calls them chariots, 3rd verse, "The shield of his mighty men is made red, and the valiant men are in scarlet, the chariots shall be with the flaming torches in the day of his preparation. The fur trees shall be terribly shaken." 4th, "The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against the other in the broadways, they shall seem like torches, they shall run like lightning." This is also, as you know an American invention, and if it is not our autos what are they? Now I call special attention to two words found in these two verses. As I have already given them as the key words, these two prophecies, which I have given have already gone the rounds of the newspapers. I do not pretend to give them as new, but as a foundation for further investigation, and as a link in the chain. Just how close they border on the fulfillment of the one we have under consideration, we have no means of finding out.

In the prophecy of Ezek., Chap. 38, he says: "Be thou prepared and prepare for thyself, thou and all thy company that are assembled unto thee and be thou a guard unto them." Note the connection. The auto was to be in the day of his preparation. I ask what has been the slogan of the United States since the war with Germany became imminent. The answer comes back, "preparedness." Is it not a fact that our great President and our nation are looked to as umpires in settling the great problem that have grown out of this terrible war? Notice how the facts and the predictions harmonize.

The next verse reveals the purpose for which the preparedness is being made, verse 8: 'After many days thou shalt be visited in the latter years, thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste, but it is brought forth out of the nations and they shall dwell safely all of them.' Now let's see how this verse harmonizes with the facts. If you are at all acquainted with the history of the settlement of our country, you are aware of the fact that the white man was not the first settler. The Indians or red men were already here and history can give no account of how they came here. The international evidences go to prove that they occupied this continent for centuries. There are ruins found on this continent that appear to be as old as any of the ruins of Asia, and

further back in the misty ages of the unknown past, they had been preceded by another race, now called the Mound Builders and Cliff Dwellers, and the supposition is that the Indians exterminated them long before the advent of the white man. We have dug into these mounds and found thigh bones of men five feet long. The tall sons of Anack have been here brought back from the sword. When our forefathers first landed the red men were divided up into small tribes and governed by petty chiefs who were waging a continual warfare with each other, and social science tells us that it would have been only a question of time when they would have exterminated each other. Brought back from the sword; while we have nearly exterminated the Red men, we have made it a peace loving nation. Gathered out of many people, or out of the Nations. The fact is, this country, (United States of America,) is settled by every nationality in the world. The red men were found here and they have emigrated here from every nation in the known world of their own accord, except Africa, and the Dutch through greed went to Africa and kidnapped them and brought them here and sold them to our forefathers as slaves, unconsciously perhaps, making the facts harmonize with the letter of the predictions. This country is known as the "melting pot" of the nations.

Notwithstanding the fact that this country had been occupied by the red men for ages, it was still a barren waste infested with wild animals, upon which the Indians were preying. He only cultivated small patches to raise a little maize or Indian corn to make his sofka and some tobacco to smoke. So we again reach a definite conclusion without doing violence to the text.

Chapter III

It is now brought forth out of the nations under the existing conditions and the wonderful development of our country today this needs but little comment. You have but to look around you at the cities and towns with all our modern improvements and millions of acres of land in the high state of cultivation, producing grain to feed and cotton to clothe a large per cent of the world to be overwhelmed with the evidence.

Dwelling safely all of them—fact. The geographical situation of our country, being between the two great seas, so isolated us from the other great nations of the world that we have dwelt in comparative safety. Three thousand miles of rolling waves have up to the present time furnished a sufficient barrier to protect us from the greed of the covetous nations of Europe, but the day is fast approaching when the ocean will no longer be the barrier that it now is. Verse 9, "Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm; thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land; thou and all thy bands, and many people with thee." I got my first thought on this subject in 1863 by listening to a conversation between my father and a gentleman from St. Louis, Mo. They were discussing a book written by Mr. Baldwin, the title of which was "THE UNITED STATES IN PROPHECY, or ISRAEL RESTORED." This was during the war between the states and Mr. Baldwin in his book had contended that United States was Israel restored and the scene or place of the last great battle of the world would be fought in the Mississippi valley. Their idea was that some of the nations of the world would take sides with the South and some with the North and there by precipitate that great conflict. It

was very natural for him, writing at the time he did, to lay the scene of this great battle, which is called the "Battle of the Armageddon" (see book of Rev. 20-8.) This great river was at that time the artery of commerce, leading through the center of our country. But it would have been impossible to have fulfilled this passage at that time, as the Aeroplane had not been invented. "Thou shalt ascend and come like the storm. Isaiah 40, 8. "Who are these, etc.? We read and reread this verse and it never occurred to our minds that the word "who" does not refer to fowls, until the Wright Brothers invented the plane, then we had to admit that Isaiah saw this 800 years before the coming of the Messiah. Ascend, you know, means to go up; to come like a storm with a great noise. I here venture the opinion that we are not yet ready for the literal fulfillment of this prediction, as the aeroplane is not yet perfected to the extent as to furnish the noise.

A few years ago a Boston scientist perfected an electric machine that if placed on shipboard was capable of detecting an object on the bosom of the ocean, two and one half miles, giving the exact location, direction and distance, also measure the depth of the ocean at any given point. Some scientists were telling Mr. Edison about it and he had a vision. He said that the flight of the coming aeroplane would not be as the Eagle but as the buzz of the bee, and added "Boys, I am getting too old to perfect it, but you can." They have since been studying the humble bee and the oscillating motion of the wings to apply it to the aeroplane. When this is accomplished they can stand over a given point and drop a bomb with as much precision as we now shoot a rifle ball and be gone in the twinkling of an eye, and the buzz of the wings will furnish the noise.

Chapter 28, Verse 10—"The purpose for which they come." Thus saith the Lord God, it shall also come to pass that at the same time shall things come into thy mind and thou shalt think an evil thought, as in all wars of conquest the intent will be evil.

Sin being the cause, the objective will be conquest first, but in this covetousness and greed will finally dominate as it is revealed in the 12th chapter, verse 11. "And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages, having neither bars nor gates, dwelling without walls having neither bars nor gates, and are at rest, dwelling safely." As before stated, our almost complete isolation from the other continents there has existed no necessity for forts, consequently we have but few, and no walled cities. Here the facts agree again with the letter.

12th verse, "To take a spoil and take a prey, to turn thy hand against or upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations which have gotten cattle and goods." He here repeats some declarations made in some of the preceding verses. At the time Ezekial wrote this and made these predictions their wealth consisted largely in cattle and goods, there was but little money in circulation. Now the first question that presents itself to our minds is, will the wealth be there for them to come after? Here I am going to relate some facts that comparatively speaking will read like the Arabian Nights or Sinbads voyages. Just two hundred and ninety nine years ago last December, 1919, the Mayflower landed on this continent at Plymouth Rock with one hundred and one souls on board. There was at that time two small settlements of white people in the bounds of what is known as the United States, one at Jamestown, Va., and the other one at St. Augustine,

Florida. These two settlements were made by adventurers. We generally date the beginning of our civilization with the landing of the Mayflower.

These emigrants, it is said, had only eight months provision. If they had any money, history is silent as to the amount. And with this small pittance as the beginning we have outstripped the nations of the world in the accumulation of wealth. We sometimes reach conclusions by comparison. Take China for instance, China boasted of a civilization four thousand years old before Columbus discovered America, with a continent capable of producing as much, if not more wealth, than the United States, and by 1910 we could have bought every man, woman and child on the continent of China for fifty dollars per head and had one hundred billion dollars left to operate on. Or take South America, which was settled principally by the Latin races. About the time the Mayflower landed on this continent Pizzario landed on the shores of South America. Today we could buy the whole continent at a reasonable figure and have a few millions left. The state of Brazil embraces as much or more territory than the United States of America. The Amazon river drains a larger territory than the Mississippi of rich alluvial land, with climatic conditions equally if not superior for the production of wealth, and yet the United States have accumulated more wealth than the whole continent of South America.

There is a reason for this, and it is to be found in the way in which they landed and the difference in the settlers. When Pizzario landed on the coast of Brazil, the first thing he did was to plant a Roman cross, then he hoisted the Flag of Spain and with a drawn sword he took possession of the country in the name of the King of Spain. The country was then settled by the Latin race. When the Pilgrim occupants of the Mayflower landed it was quite different. The first foot that touched the snow clad surface of Plymouth Rock, was that of the virgin, Mary Chilton and when the whole company had gotten on shore the first thing they did was to open the Bible, read a chapter, then kneel down in the snow and offer praise and thanksgiving to the great Ruler of the Universe.

They virtually took possession of the country in the name of the God of the Bible. Just what this meant has been demonstrated by the most wonderful prosperity this world has ever witnessed. Truly the Lord has been with us; the God of Jacob has had a hand in the great development of our land. May He still abide with us as our refuge and strength. The difference in the settlers: one is settled by a single race, comparatively speaking, the other out of many or from among the nations, by a natural law of selection we might say, the pick of the world. The conditions under which this country was first settled were such that the timid and invalids did not come here. It involved a three to six months voyage across the ocean with all the dangers accompanying the voyage in the crude sailing vessels of that day, and the facing of the savage aborigines on arrival, consequently none but the most daring, enterprising and courageous would undertake it. This, in part, is one of the reasons of our great prosperity. By a natural law, that like begets its like, consequently we are the descendants of the most enterprising of the different nations of the world, but we have nothing of which to boast, as it is brought about by an over ruling Providence, or in other words, God is by the natural law of selection, preparing for himself a people through which he will eventually make his name known to all

the World. Notwithstanding the fact that we had practically nothing to start on and a continent to subdue, also a barren waste to develop, in the short space of two hundred and ninety years, (when compared with the other nations of the world,) our wealth had reached the enormous sum of one hundred and twenty billions, or a little more than one fourth of the wealth of the whole world, up to 1910. Our wealth had been increasing at the rate of twenty billion in a decade, but by 1914 it was 100,040,000,00, or twenty billions in four years, and in 1918 the comptroller of the U. S. treasury said that we were worth 180 billions. Thus our wealth is increasing by leaps and bounds with the possibilities of accumulating greater than ever before. The cutting of the Panama canal, joining the two great oceans, places us right in the highway of the commerce of the whole world. The present conditions are forcing us to increase our merchant marine. It was England's control of the commerce of the world that made London the money center of the world for many centuries. She kept her ships hugging the coasts of the other continents the year round, filling her coffers with their gold and thereby became the dictator of the finances of the whole world.

But the late world war has altered the conditions. England has been the largest looser and we are fast becoming the greatest builder. Our president, Mr. Wilson, advocated the building a merchant marine sufficient to form a veritable pontoon bridge from New York to Liverpool. Who knows but that the U-Boat was an instrument in the hands of a divine providence in changing the two centers? Germany has been the center of education and England the center of wealth and commerce. The center of wealth has already changed to America and the war has so demoralized Germany that she will no longer be able to compete with us on educational lines and before the end of this century Germany will be coming to America to complete her education.

We have produced our wealth by our agricultural, manufacturing and mining industries. While our commerce has been very limited, if now we can get the control of the commerce the possibilities of accumulating wealth will be increased at least ten fold. Even at the rate that it is now increasing, by the end of this century it will be eight hundred and forty billions or more than the wealth of the whole world at the present time.

I am proud of the fact that I am an American citizen and rejoice that I am a citizen of the state of Texas, the largest, if not the brightest star, in the whole constellation, the gem of the Gulf, which by the end of the present century will be worth as much as the United States was at the end of the Eighteenth Century. Why not, with her oil wells producing immense wealth, and rich iron ore in immense quantities, her lead, silver and coal and mines yet undeveloped, her truck, fruit and timber, her rich rolling prairies, the greatest cotton producing area in the world, South Texas with as great possibilities as any other portion; trucking, and the growing of citrus fruits, and her animal industries, capable of feeding the whole union? We conclude therefore, that the "wealth will be here for them to come after."

Definitions and Explanations

Verse 14—"Therefore Son of man prophecy unto Gog." Who is Gog? The names Gog, Magog and Magedo. The word Armageddon was formed from Army and Mageddo, which means to cut off, to destroy. Gog second son of Japhet. who lived 600 years before Christ, Magog a race

like Gomver, the Cimmerians dwelling in the north country, whose weapons were bows and arrows, their warriors were all horsemen. These terms became symbolical, after a battle between these two tribes with the Israelites in the valley of Esdralon at the foot of Mt. Mageddo, in which Isreal was victorious. This was the place where Joshua overcame the Cannanites and where Saul fell on his own sword. Ezekial used these terms in the same manner and sense in which we now use the term "Waterloo."

It seems that they will be ignorant of the safety of the people when my people of Isreal dwell safely thou shalt not know it. (Note) "When my people of Israel," not Israel. The Christian religion as we have it, as you know, was transmitted to us through the Jews who were the lineal descendants of Abraham, and were the inhabitants of the country called Israel because of their name. Now, if you will get your Bible and read the second chapter of Paul's letter to the Ephesians, in the 29th verse he says: "Now therefore ye are no more strangers or foreigners but fellow citizens with the saints and of the the household of God."

Here Paul is evidently referring to the Gentiles of whom we are a part. In the 14th verse he tells us that the middle wall or partition was broken down. We conclude therefore, that we are of Israel. In this verse, 16th, he repeats the manner of their coming "as a cloud" and in the latter days he also makes known God's purpose, that "the Heathen may know me when I shall be sanctified in thee, before their eyes, God will make his name known among the nations." In the next verse he reminds us of the prophecies of his servants, the prophets of Israel, and of his fury that shall come up in his face. Verse 19. "For in my jealousy, and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel." (Note here.) Let us get the meaning of the term Israel. It was first applied to Jacob after he had wrestled all night with the Angel and means "Soldier of God," (Gen. 32-28; Hosea 12-3) or he that overcometh. (Let me here insert, by way of parenthesis, that if history be true the stars and stripes have never yet gone down nor been soiled by conquest unless in the liberation of an oppressed people.) Truly we have won the sobriquet. As further testimony: the position we occupied and the principles for which we fought in the late war with Germany and Austria for the freedom of an oppressed world, with the astounding success that followed our entrance into it, we still hold the claim. But the strongest evidence, to my mind, that the United States is Israel Restored, as asserted by Mr. Baldwin, is that the Government of the United States is formulated after the Divine Government, it being a trinity. We call it Republican or Democratic, a government in which the legislature, judicial and executive powers are equally balanced. In the Divine Government there is God, the Law Giver, who gave the Law to Moses on the Mount. God sent his son Jesus, who proved its constitutionality and sealed it with his blood then went back to the Court of Heaven as Judge, and sent the Holy Spirit to execute and exemplify it. We have a duplicate of this in our Congress, Supreme Court and our President.

Our forefathers adopted a constitution and sealed it with their blood. the triune God gave the Ten Commandments, Jesus came as a man and kept them, proving their adaptability to our present condition of being, thus freeing us from the penalty of a violate law to which we were in bondage. Freedom has never been purchased without the shedding of blood. As Israel, or Jacob, overcame at Jabbok, so Wash-

ington and his men overcame at Yorktown and set up the only real free government that the world had ever seen. Had it ever occurred to your mind that the Civil war was fought to maintain the constitution? We called it to preserve the union on one side and maintain states rights on the other, but God saw it in a different light. Our constitution granted every man the right of personal liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and yet we had held three million human beings in slavery.

I was a Confederate soldier and it never occurred to my mind that we were fighting against our own constitution until fifty years after the war was over; could not see it for the "negro in the wood pile." We could not do otherwise than go to the rescue of France and England—the liberty of the world was in jeopardy and being threatened. Victory for Germany meant slavery for the whole world.

As further evidence that we are not yet prepared and that the spirit of Rebellion is still among us and that we are not yet what the United States signifies, we give here as instance, the last Governors' election in the great state of Texas. Notwithstanding the fact that the former Governor was, or had been, impeached, on his own testimony, and that by his own friends, over one hundred thousand Texans voted for his re-election against the constitution. But we are no worse than some of the other states. New Jersey and Minnesota, if we may credit the newspapers, are in the throes of political rebellion against the Federal Constitution, but it's a "jug in the woodpile" this time. We have the union but we are most woefully lacking in unity. The reason of this is that we have received emigrants faster than we can assimilate them. Ignorance of the fundamental principles of our government and, un-Americanized, they fail to comprehend its great aims. They must be assimilated in order to become loyal citizens and the only way to accomplish this is by educating them in our form of government through our public schools and evangelizing them through our protestant churches in protestantism. This can be done only by teaching one language and the preaching of one gospel. Foreign languages and wornout creeds must go to the junk heap. I do not mean by this that organic union of the different churches is necessary, no more than that we should have but one state, but as we have forty-eight federated states with the same form of government working in harmony, bound by the federal constitution, so the different ecclesiastical churches must agree upon one gospel, endorsed not only in the councils of men, but by the Holy Ghost, whose refining fire is alone sufficient to melt this conglomeration of races and nations into one grand republic of free and upright citizens, fit to carry the glad tidings and salvation and liberty to a fallen world. And until this is accomplished, we will have the cry of "peace, peace, where there is no peace."

CHAPTER V

A Glance at the Conditions

Our lives touch each other at three given points: morally, socially and politically, and these must be so balanced as not to create friction. So far we are more or less segregated. We are most woefully divided in our church relations; socially, we are in different classes, or castes; politically, we are far from being united. We have let partisanship demoralize us. The condition in the religious world is so patent that for me to produce an argument to prove the assertion would seem to a thinking man almost superfluous, but the trouble is that we are in too

great a hurry to think, we are much concerned about the high cost of living and the where-with-all to be clothed, but what about the high cost of sin? We can pay the cost of living and clothing with sweat, but it will take both sweat and blood to pay the cost of sin. As I have stated, I have had a pretty wide experience in the religious realm. I find the same distinctions existing in the churches and among the ministry that exist in the social and political. Though not in so marked a degree, the same segregation is there. Among the ministry we have the "high steeple" fellows and gum-log. In the churches, the city folks and the country have about as much dealings as the Jews and Samaritans. If you don't believe this assertion suppose you dress a little tacky and go into a city church some Sunday, or put on a silk hat and don a dude outfit and reverse by going into the country church and see what sort of welcome you will receive. Now, I know whereof I speak and these conditions will remain until we learn the great fundamental truths that Jesus both taught and exemplified. Our slogan now should be save America, that America may save the world, morally and socially and politically.

In the late war with Germany we had an example of what concentration for a single objective point would do. We had one Commander-in-Chief for the Allied Armies, one object to attain, and we concentrated all of our energies and means to this one purpose, doffed all religious, social and political differences and fought shoulder to shoulder against the aggression of the Kaiser for our common liberty. As Christians and free men, will we let this example go unheeded while we are engaged in the greatest cause that has ever been engaged in by mortal man? Let's hoist the banner of our King Immanuel above the Stars and Stripes and with Jesus as our Leader and the Star Spangled Banner as the emblem of our liberty, march in one solid phalanx to the conquest of a fallen and oppressed world.

CHAPTER VI

Military Training as Preparation

"The command is to prepare, and prepare for thyself, thou and all thy company that are gathered into thee and be thou a guard unto them."

Israel is to be victorious in this last war and in order to do so will have to be prepared. The question then arises, are we doing this? Here let me give some facts and then we can draw our own conclusions. In the first great wars of the world, the victors were the ones who had the greatest physical strength and regular bull dog bravery. This was essential on account of the character of weapons they had to fight with. They consisted of daggers, bludgeons, catapults, stones, etc., hence the Hercules and Hectors were victors. Not much training was necessary, but as the weapons changed to bows, swords and spears it required more training, but the same bull dog bravery and on the invention of fire arms it changed again and the victors were the ones who had the stediest nerve and could draw the most deadly aim. The British General Braddock who had trained soldiers was defeated by untrained frontiersmen who had the nerve and knew how to shoot. Take the Alamo in Texas history. Here were one hundred and forty odd untrained frontiersmen surrounded by ten times their number of trained servants of Santa Anna, but everyone of those men in the Alamo had grown up with a gun, been hardened by frontier life, and knew how to shoot. The first battle of Manassas in our Civil war was

won by untrained militia, but those southern boys had grown up with a gun and could bring down a buck at a gallop. They were the direct descendants of frontiersmen, and had nerve, but it's going to change again, and this German war has learned us another lesson, the character of the weapons and the mode of warfare having under gone a most wonderful change. The training will be more necessary to meet the changed conditions. The victors in the last great war of the world will be those who have the swiftest motion and the keenest vision. We have already had an object lesson in the bombing of Paris by the Germans. Now let's see if we are not training unconsciously it may be for just such a catastrophe.

What does baseball do for a fellow if it does not sharpen his sight and quicken his motion? I have watched the game to see what we get out of it. They throw the ball like it was shot out of a gun; you have to see quick if you see it, then hit quick if you are to hit it, and run like Jehu or get hit! The result of this kind of training will in a few generations make us the keenest sighted and quickest motion nation in the world. Take an analogous case and see if our conclusions are not right. The Apache Indian prides himself in his marksmanship and if he shoots at a deer and misses it he will not shoot a second time, but hold himself under obligation to catch that deer, so he lays down his weapon and strips himself for the race; all but his hunting knife. He immediately takes up the chase and his practiced sight, practiced for generations, he can trail him like a blood hound. The deer runs a little distance and stops, his stops gets shorter every time; the Indian never stops but keeps in motion. The deer will get hot and make for water; when he stops to drink the Indian describes a circle, lets him drink all he wants and when the deer walks out he renews the chase; passing through the water he scoops it up with his hand, wets his mouth and spits it out. He soon then overtakes his victim, cuts its throat and drinks some of the warm blood, then waits for him to die but keeps in motion. He then dresses him, goes back to where he left his weapon, returns to his tepee and sends his squaw for the venison. Now, suppose that one of our foreparents had have undertaken to catch an Apache when they first landed here; he would have been like a benched-legged fice after a jack rabbit. Had you noticed that nearly all of our high schools are now giving military training? Germany demonstrated to the world what thorough training would accomplish. Think of the fact that three comparatively small nations holding a large part of the world at bay for more than four years. You have a president that is not to be despised. In vain we are trying to establish a world peace through a league of nations, but as long as we train soldiers and manufacture arms and build ships of war, we will have war. A gun is made to shoot and soldiers are trained to fight. You get no results from the manufacture of guns until they are fired, nor from the training of soldiers until you fight, then this is the natural result.

The 16th verse, "And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel as a cloud to cover the land." Notice in this verse he says "my people of Israel," not Israel. I have already given a definition of this word in Chapter 4. In this verse God reveals His purpose that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee before their eyes. There are two facts that the prophet keeps prominently before us in this chapter. One is, the place where the battle is to be fought, and the other is the ones that will be defeated. In the next verse he reminds us of the warning that had been given; the 19th and

25th tells us of the severity of the battle. In the 21st verse he says that "every man's sword shall be against his brother." The United States is the only country of which I have any knowledge where this prediction could be literally fulfilled, as we are composed of every nationality in the world.

In the prophecies of Daniel, Chapter 11, verse 45, he says: "And he shall plant the tabernacle of his palace between the seas, in the glorious holy mountains, yet he shall come to his end and none shall help him." Fact; we are between the seas, so this prediction of Daniel harmonizes without doing any violence to the text.

The common idea is that the Jews will finally be returned to Judea, or the original land of Canaan, which was allotted to them in ancient times and that these predictions will be fulfilled in this country. Nearly all the interpreters that I have read persist in laying the scene of this last great battle in the valley of Esdralon where Joshua overcame the Canaanites. It seems that we cannot get away from the idea that the Jews are a select nation, or a favored people, and that the final triumph of the Prince of Peace will favor them. I do not care to enter into a controversy on this subject only in so far as to establish the facts, as I see them, all ready brought out in the interpretations of this chapter of the prophet Ezekial. Having already referred in this connection to Paul's letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 2, 19, I will undertake to give an exposition, or interpretation, or whatever you are a mind to call it of the covenant which to my mind does away with all the distinction of favoritism and makes both Jews and Gentiles one people. The Jews were set apart for a special purpose. The Messiah having come, the purpose was fulfilled. Now why go back under the Jewish Law?

CHAPTER VII

The Covenant

2nd Ephesians—This chapter is headed "What we are by nature and what we are by grace." Verse 11: "Wherefore remember that ye being in times past Gentiles in the flesh who are called uncircumcision by that which is called circumcision in the flesh made by hands. 12: "That at that time ye being aliens from the common wealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus ye who some times were afar off are made nigh by the blood of Christ" 14. "For He is our peace who hath made both one and hath broken down the middle wall or partition between us, having abolished in his flesh the enemy, even the Law of Commandments contained in the ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man so making peace."

16. "And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby." 19. "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God.

The promise referred to in the 12th verse, is the promise that God made to Abraham in the 12th Chapter of Genesis, which reads "And I will bless them that blesseth thee and curse him that curseth thee and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." Notice he here includes all families of the earth. Then in the 17th Chapter, God came to Abraham and entered into a covenant with him and changed his name to Abraham. Said he, "For a Father of many nations have I

made thee." This declares that he was to be not only the Father of the Jews in their lineal descent, but was also to be the federal head of many nations.

This covenant was predicated upon Abraham after conduct he was to walk before him and be perfect, a covenant being a contract entered into by two parties with conditions mutually agreed upon by each party, each party being bound by those conditions. God then gave Abraham the sign of circumcision. He immediately complied with this by being himself circumcised after he was ninety years old and had all the males of his household circumcised, thus complying with this part of the contract. Now consult the 26th Chapter of Genesis. Here God appeared unto Isaac and renewed the covenant with him which he had made with his father, Abraham, and calls it the oath. He swore to Abraham, thy father. He also enlarges the promise. First, it was to include many nations; now he adds "all nations of the earth," and also states that Abraham had kept his part of the covenant. Verse 5: "Because that Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments and my statutes." Here we learn that God meant to keep his part of the covenant because, to use a modern phrase, that Abraham had made good. This covenant made with him according to David, was to last to a thousand generations, Ps. 105.—Here David refers to it as made with Abraham and his oath unto Isaac.

But, you ask, what about the new covenant? The new covenant was made with the Jews after they had forfeited the privileges conferred upon them by the Mossaical covenant. Facts. In the 19th Chapter of Exodus we learn after the Jews had escaped Egyptian bondage and were come before the mount, Moses ascended the mount and the Lord called unto him out of the mountain and instructed him to remind the children of Israel what he had done to the Egyptians and their remarkable delivery and said: "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice in deed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people." The 8th verse contains their assent in these words: All that the Lord has commanded or spoken we will do," and Moses returned the words of the people unto the Lord which made the covenant complete. This separated them from the balance of the world by rights conferred upon them by this covenant by a failure to keep upon their part the conditions upon which it was based. Jerimiah, 31-31, says: "Behold the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judea, not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers, when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, which my covenant they broke." So we see that God was released from his part of the covenant, the Jews having utterly failed to comply with the conditions. Now, we consult the first Chapter of St. Luke, 72nd and 73rd verses, we learn that the Jews are brought back under or included in the original or Abrahamic covenant, which reads, 72nd verse: "To perform the mercy promised to our Fathers and to remember his holy covenant and the oath that he swore to our Father Abraham."

Now to be sure of our conclusion let us consult the 8th Chapter of Hebrews which is headed by the "eternal priesthood of Christ the Eleveltical priesthood is abolished." The 6th verse: "But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant which was established upon better promises."

I ask, what better promises? The promises that God made to Abraham (Gen. 17.) The Mosacial covenant was given to the Jews only, which isolated them from the other nations, of whom Paul in the 2nd chapter of his letter to the Ephesians says: "At that time ye were aliens from the commonwealth of Isreal and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world." Also Rom. 9, 4 to 8, notice the word "covenant" is in the plural not singular, referring to the covenant with Abraham and the oath to Isaac, then the one made to the Jews at the Mount, Exod. 19, and the one referred to by Jeremiah 31, 31, of which Paul is writing to the Hebrews. The first included all nations, the second the Jews only and the second that he refers to here is to the Jews which brought them back under the first, or Abrahamic covenant. Now if I have given the facts and the Scriptures sustaining them, I am forced to the conclusion that the Jews no longer hold any special claim to their being a favored people, (verses 7 to 13), having failed to keep their part of the contract and as to their final return to Judea, as I have been taught, I can find nothing in the New Testament Scriptures to justify any such conclusion.

As the term Israel was applied to Jacob for an accomplishment, or performances, and not to a section of country (only because of his lineal descendants being settled in it) during the time of their separation from the other nations preparatory for the coming of the Messiah and the fulfilling of the predictions concerning him, these predictions having literally been fulfilled and the descendants of Jacob entirely banished from the country, besides the geographical name of the country has been changed to that of Palestine, I can see no good reason to lay the scene of this last great conflict in that country.

Again the description of the country given us by Ezekial does not suit that country at all. He says that it has been brought back from the sword. Palestine has been the battle ground of the nations for centuries; her fields are now fresh with the blood of the victims of this last war and the swords of contending factions are still gleaming in the sunlight on the Judean hills and a million Mohammedans still linger on her sacred soil.

"And is gathered out of many people." The word many here carries with it in meaning the idea of different nationalities and is confirmed by the words in the same verse. "And is brought out of the nations against the mountains of Israel which have been always waste." Palestine is one of the oldest settled countries in the world, having been occupied before the days of Abraham. "Dwelling safely." This would be a misnomer applied to Palestine, as it has been the scene or place of war and blood shed ever since Joshua caused the sun to stand still on the plains of Gilboah, and perhaps for years before.

"Unwalled villages." Palestine was peculiarly a country where walled villages abounded as reported by the spies sent to spy out the land by Moses.

I have thus been specific in this recapitulation so as to leave no doubt in the mind of the reader about what country is intended. If this continent is not the one, then there will have to be new discoveries made and new settlements to fulfill the prediction.

CHAPTER VIII

God's Purpose

"THAT THE HEATHEN MAY KNOW ME AND THAT ISRAEL MAY KNOW THAT I AM GOD." It has been the rule ever since

the command not to eat of the fruit of the tree in the midst of the Garden that man has been under the reign of law not to be trifled with. One of these laws is whatsoever we sow, we shall also reap; if we sow to the wind we shall reap the whirlwind. If we disregard the still small voice of God as it is borne on the gentle zephyrs as they float past us and fan our cheeks, his wrath will be kindled against us and break forth in vengeance like thunderings of Sinai and shake the earth with his presence until we be made to know that he is God, and that it is he that has made us and not ourselves. We are his people. Ps. 100. To this end the time is coming when he will make bare his mighty arm, and the nations will be gathered in one great conflict to settle forever the issue between the true God and Mammon, for he says they are coming to take a spoil, to take a prey. Our immense wealth will attract them to our shores. The mighty struggle that is now going on in our own country between labor and capital will come up for adjustment. The fact that we are so absorbed in making money that we have lost sight of the Golden Rule will necessitate taking the "I" out of gold so that we can recognize the difference between the true God and the God of this world.

But think of the cost of men and blood, think of the sacrifice that the world will have to make and the price we will have to pay. In the 39th Chapter he tells us that he will only leave a sixth part of the mighty host that gathered to settle this great issue. Think of a burial that it will take seven long months to complete; think of the stench in the nostrils for that length of time. Can you imagine the extent of the epidemic that will hang like a dark pall over the land, and add its thousands to the dead? It is only necessary to read the 39th Chapter. It needs no comment. If it is to be literally fulfilled as all of the predictions have been in the past, the pen of no mere man could portray nor tongue could find language adequate to convey but a vague idea of the terrible destruction and suffering which will be equal to if not more terrible than that of the Jews in Jerusalem when they suffered the vengeance of God for rejecting his son Jesus. My soul stands aghast from the frightful picture and the curtain drops on the scene.

But to all things material there is an end. We are told that this will be the last. Isaiah 2, 4: "And he shall judge among the nations and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plow shares and their spears into pruning hooks; nations shall not lift up his sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

"O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord."

"Wherefore thou hast forsaken thy people, the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the East, and are soothsayers like the Philistines and they please themselves in the children of strangers."

"Their land also is full of silver and gold, neither is there any end of their treasures; their land is also full of horses, neither is there any end of their chariots."

I give these four verses from the second chapter of Isaiah as they seem to harmonize with the facts, and in conclusion commit them to your candid judgment.

CHAPTER IX

SUBJECT: "REGENERATION."

2nd Cor. 5-17—"Therefore if any man be in Christ Jesus, he is a new creature." The 16th verse defines the kind of relationship which is spiritual and not natural. The word, therefore, in the text alludes to this.

First, I want to give two axioms, one in regard to interpretation and one a natural law. In mathematics, if equals be added to equals the whole will be equal. This is the axiom. Now the interpretation is that no interpretation of scripture can be correct that conflicts with a plain declaration. The natural law is that like always begets its like.

If it was necessary for Paul to say that "if any man be in Christ Jesus," the inference is clear that all men are not in him, and if not why not, and how do or did they get in him, or into him? As it is not here stated, when or how, we will have to infer or bring other scriptures to our help and these must so harmonize as to make it clear without conflict.

Paul tells us in the sixth chapter of his letter to the Romans, 3rd verse, that "we are baptized into Christ" and I am going to take him at his word and try to find out by applying the rule of interpretation and the law given above when and how it is done.

Paul tells us in the preceding chapter that the atonement was made for all, and the seventh chapter how he was alive without the law. But when he became conscious, sin revived and he died, sin taking occasion by the law slew him. This alienated him from Christ. Now he tells us in the 5th Chapter of Romans, 20th verse, that the law entered that the offense might abound but where sin abounded Grace did much more abound.

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness and unto eternal life by Jesus Christ. Now for fear that we might misinterpret this, he begins the 6th chapter by saying shall we continue in sin that grace may abound. God forbid! How shall we that are dead to sin live any longer therein? Here we learn that we must now become dead to sin which implies repentance or a turning away from and forsaking of sin, which is termed being dead to sin, so that Grace might reign through righteousness. Faith now taking hold of Jesus Christ, who is our righteousness, we are inducted into him by baptism, which is termed by Paul the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost. Titus, 3, 5: And here as being baptized into him or into his death Romans 6, 3: The sixth verse tells how it is done. Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised from the dead by the Glory of the Father even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Here controversy begins and ends; now let's decide this by the rules already laid down.

Let me say first, that in order to have a burial three things are absolutely necessary; first a subject, second a place, third a mode, and in the absence of either one of these you could not have a burial. Now the first two of these are here mentioned so there can be no mistake about them, that is, the subject of burial, which is a body dead to sin, and the place of burial which is into death, so that the new man may be raised up; in John 3. 3, Christ himself called it being born again. Paul said it was being raised up by the Glory of the

Father to walk in newness of life, then he gives us another picture which is that of planting: For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection. Now the mode is not mentioned. Therefore, we will have to infer to get the mode or manner and this inference according to our rule must not conflict with any plain declaration.


And in as much as he has given us a burial as the figure of it, we will resort to a national burial for an example; since in Adam all have to die, there must be burials as long as the world stands; it is the law. "Dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return." Gen. 3. 19. A refusal to comply with this injunction would result in the annihilation of the human family. Death is sure, burial is optional, death should precede burial, to bury before death would be murder, to refuse after death would be annihilation as it is necessary to bury the body that died to sin. So that the life of Christ may be formed in him, so also is it necessary to bury the natural body to perpetuate the life of the world. A dead body then is the subject of burial, a grave dug in the mother earth is the most common place and is in keeping with the injunction mentioned, "dust thou art and unto dust thou shalt return." Let's see how it is performed and then we can get a definite idea of what Paul meant. We will let the Free Masons do the burying and see how they do it. The corpse is carried to the grave or place of burial, then lowered into it; this is only preparatory, the burial is yet to take place. The master of ceremonies then takes a spade or shovel and shovels up some dirt and sprinkles or pours it in the grave, using these words: "Earth to earth and ashes to ashes, and the spirit to the God who gave it." I ask what is he doing? You say that he is burying him. How? By sprinkling or pouring the dirt on him. When they have finished this part of the ceremony they shovel the dirt in until the grave is filled up. Burying then is done by pouring.

Now in order to represent a burial it will have to conform to an actual one or convey an incorrect idea and stultify the scriptures. This mode does not conflict with a single text of scripture from Genesis to Revelations, but harmonizes with the plain declaration made by Isaiah 44, 45; Ez. 36, 25-22; Joel 2, 28; Acts 2, 17-18;—and in Acts 1, 5, Luke makes Christ say; "John truly baptised with water, but ye shall be baptised with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." So what Isaiah, Ezekiel and Joel called sprinkling and pouring, Christ called Baptism, so Paul did not do any violence to the interpretation when he likened it to a burial. Now, what is water baptism? You answer, a symbol or figure. What does it symbolize? One says, the new birth or baptism of the Holy Ghost. The other says that it symbolizes a death, burial and resurrection. It makes no differences which horn of the dilemma is correct. Effusion is the mode, if I may accept the definition given by Jesus Christ. Paul is writing of the spiritual baptism in Cor., 12, 13. He says, "For by one spirit are we all baptised into one body." Here is the one Faith, one Lord, and the one baptism as he tells in Eph. 4, 5: "All who have received this baptism are born from above and are heirs of God through Grace and by Faith in our Lord Jesus Christ." I here repeat the rule: No interpretation of scripture can be correct that conflicts with a plain declaration. It takes a spiritual power to beget a spiritual life. The text says if any man be in him; materially

this language is preposterous, gramatically absurd. Jesus Christ as we knew him when present, could not contain one man, much less ten thousand.

Now let's apply the rule that like begets or produces its like. This being one axiomatic law running through the whole economy of nature, will test by it what water baptism does for us. If it is material it can only beget a material relationship and as material unite us with or beget for us union or induct us into a material body. That is all that it can accomplish and if you contend that it takes immersion in water to unite you with an immersion church, it's none of my business, and if other denominations will receive you into communion by either effusion or immersion it is none of your business and why scrap over it? Here let me, in conclusion, repeat the rule, "Like begets its like." Material things beget material things. It takes a spiritual power to beget a spiritual relation, and thus saith the Lord, is the end of all controversy.

G. W. HENDERSON.



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